

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-40 are currently active in this case. Claims 16 and 35 have been amended by the current amendment.

In the outstanding office action, claims 1, 7, 16, 25, and 35 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 38-42, 46-48, 50, 52, and 53 of U.S. patent application No. 08/636,024; and claims 1, 16, 25, and 35 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by published Japanese patent application HEI 2[1990] 83720 to Nakagawa.

Claims 2-15, 17-24, 26-34, and 36-40 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter. However, because Applicant believes that he is entitled to the scope of protection defined by the currently presented independent claims, claims 2-15, 17-24, 26-34, and 36-40 have been maintained in dependent form.

In response to the provisional non-statutory obviousness type double patenting rejection, Applicant elects to take no action at this time as neither the current application or the 08/636,024 application has matured into a patent.

The present invention (claim 1) is directed to an integrated circuit (IC) including a register to store a threshold temperature, a thermal sensor; and clock adjustment logic to decrease a clock frequency in response to the thermal sensor indicating that the threshold temperature value has been exceeded. Likewise, claim 16 is directed to a method including storing the threshold temperature value in a register of an IC, sensing the temperature within the IC; and decreasing the clock frequency of the IC in response to the sensed temperature

exceeding the threshold temperature value. Claim 25 is directed to a microprocessor including a thermal sensor which generates a first interrupt signal when an internal microprocessor temperature exceeds the threshold temperature. Lastly, claim 35 is directed to a method including storing threshold temperature values in a register of the microprocessor, generating a temperature signal within the microprocessor indicative of the temperature of the microprocessor; and generating an interrupt signal if the temperature signal indicates that the first threshold temperature level has been exceeded.

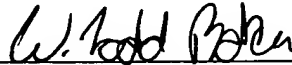
Section 3.3 of the official action asserts that Nakagawa does not expressly include a register for use in storing a value corresponding to a threshold temperature. Applicant agrees. However, the official action further asserts that Nakagawa teaches “the use of computer programs to control frequencies, and the use of registers is inherent in the operation of a computer program.” Applicant traverses that assertion. Applicant respectfully points out that each independent claim defines an IC or microprocessor including a register for storing threshold temperature values. In contrast thereto, Nakagawa merely teaches using a program from the computer system “to observe” the temperature data. That is, Nakagawa does not teach or suggest that the program it discloses or the data manipulated by the program is stored in a register which is provided on an IC (or microprocessor) which is the subject of the temperature monitoring.

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Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding and the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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